

30. NEW RECORDS OF THE CLAM *CYRENA CEYLONICA* (CHEMNITZ),
MOLLUSCA: FAMILY CYRENIDAE, IN ANDAMAN ISLANDS

The literature available on the molluscan resources of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is scant except for the few reports of Melvil and Abercrombie (1893), Setna (1933) and Rao (1939). The present study reports the occurrence of *Cyrena ceylonica* (Chemnitz) in Andaman Islands. In Sri Lanka, it was recorded by Preston (1915). This black-shelled clam, locally called *chippi*, is abundant in mangrove creeks and inlets, usually buried in the muddy substratum. It is collected live along the coastal habitats during low tide by handpicking by the tribals and local villagers, for whom it is a cheap source of animal protein. The shells are used in several lime-based industries in these islands. The clams are also utilised as broodstock diets for prawns and fishes in hatcheries and in aquaria due to their easy availability, palatability and hardiness in confinement.

On an average 100 specimens from each location in the South, Middle and North Andaman were collected and identified from Preston (1915) and also by consulting molluscan specialists of Vizhinjam Research Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute. Samples are kept in the museum of the Fisheries Science Division, CARI, Port Blair.

Out of seven species of *Cyrena*, namely *Cyrena ceylonica*, *C. impressa*, *C. sinuosa*, *C. bengalensis*, *C. tennentii*, *C. proxima* and *C. galathea* occurring in different parts of the world, only *C. galathea* has been reported earlier in Nicobar Islands (Preston 1915). The distribution range of *Cyrena ceylonica* has been stated as tropical and subtropical regions of Asia, Africa, America, Australia and Oceania. This is the first record of the occurrence of *Cyrena ceylonica* in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

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31. *ALYSICARPUS OVALIFOLIUS* (SCHUMACH.) J. LEON (LEGUMINOSAE:
PAPILIONOIDEAE) — A NEW RECORD FOR THE EASTERN GHATS

(With one text-figure)

While working on the Leguminosae of an interesting plant from Nallamalai hills, Eastern Ghats, peninsular India, we collected Andhra Pradesh. On comparison with the